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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE AS  
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE

Applicants: Duffy, et al.  
Int. Appln. No: PCT/US03/37825  
Int. Filing Date: 26 November 2003  
US Appln. No.: To Be Assigned Case No.: 21288YP  
Filed: Concurrently Herewith  
For: PHENYLALANINE DERIVATIVES AS  
DIPEPTIDYL PEPTIDASE INHIBITORS FOR  
TREATMENT OR PREVENTION OF DIABETES

## Art Unit:

Exam

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

The above-identified case is a PCT application entering the US National Phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 and Article 39(1)(a) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty. Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments prior to prosecution of the subject application. Any additional fees associated with this Amendment may be charged to Merck Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

Please amend this application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** are reflected on page 2 of this response.  
**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected on page 3 of this response. **Remarks** begin on page 17 of this response.